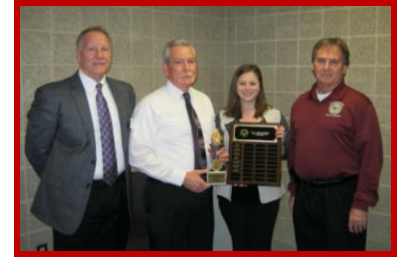


March 7, 2014

Weekly Views

New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF) Director of Support Services Kevin Jackson was chosen as the 2013 Spirit of Special Olympics Officer of the Year. Kevin has been part of the Indiana Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Indiana (SOI) for over 20 years and has been responsible for countless volunteers and funds. His dedication has shown through numerous top fundraising spots over his years in the program and last year NCCF brought home to the First Annual Commissioner's Cup Award at the Plane Pull. Commissioner Bruce

Lemmon and Superintendent Keith Butts joined Stephanie Stewart from SOI to present Keith with the award. (photo right)



Edinburgh Correctional Facility staff took the plunge for Special Olympics Indiana in the Polar Plunge at Eagle Creek Reservoir.

The facility was able to donate \$500 to this great organization. (photo left)



More than 20 Rockville Correctional Facility staff, outfitted in full plunger regalia, braved the frigid temperatures and freezing water at Eagle Creek to show their support for Special Olympics Indiana! The Rockville Plungers raised over \$1700 thanks to the generosity of their fellow staff. Not a bad day's work for a warm-hearted community on a bitterly cold morning in March.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) hosted a baby shower sponsored by Angel's Wings for 25 offender moms-to-be. Since January 2005, IWP has conducted approximately 28 showers for almost 700 pregnant offenders. Each mother receives a brand new diaper bag containing everything that moms or the care givers may need for the new bundle of joy, including baby clothes, a baby book, diapers, wipes, baby wash/lotion, baby bottle, pacifier, and a handmade quilt or crocheted blanket. The offender moms also receive a hygiene gift bag for herself and an opportunity to get her picture taken for her baby photo album. All of the games, items, and food for the shower are donated by volunteers, churches and companies who are passionate to the cause.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) is helping provide much needed meals to children in Sullivan County. The WVCF Community Involvement Fund presented a \$500 check to Reverend Michael Irvine of the Carlisle United Methodist Church for their Outreach Program. The program helps feed 51 school children on weekends, vacations and holidays. Another \$1,500 from the fund will help the Sullivan County Brown Bagger Program provide after school meals to 161 needy youngsters. Both programs provide the children with nutritious and easy to prepare foods.

Four more canines have successfully graduated from the Prison Greyhounds Program at Putnamville Correctional Facility. Meade, Jazzy, Ranger and Williston underwent three months of socialization and training by their offender handlers (pictured right) in the hope that these retired racing dogs will be adopted by lucky families. These deserving dogs are bound to make strides to learn and develop just as much as the offenders who embarked upon this journey in Prison Greyhounds.



Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) is donating \$1,500 toward the Department's efforts to raise \$50,000 for the Fuller Center for Housing which is spearheading the project to rebuild a block on historic Jackson Street in Gary, IN. The donation by PCF includes \$608 from the American Legion, \$608 from PLUS, and \$284 from the Community Involvement Fund.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted an Aramark Job Fair for current offenders, ex-offenders and juvenile job candidates. Refreshments were provided by current IN2WORK students. The applicants were given feedback on their interview and resume strengths and weakness. The fair yielded two potential employees from the field of applicants.

An Indianapolis couple addressed residents of the Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility (IREF) Reformativ Residential Reentry Program (RRRP). The speakers were the first in a series of talks scheduled by the Religious Services Department's Victims Impact class. The husband and wife team spoke about the offenses made against them by their transgressors and their transitions from victims to victors. Next week, IREF Chaplain Blackburn and his victim, Misty Wallace, will tell their stories about the strength of forgiveness. All IREF and IDOC staff are invited to attend. The Victims Impact talks will take place on Wednesday evenings at 5:00.

Congratulations to Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Sergeant Sherri Washington on her promotion to lieutenant! Lt. Washington began her IDOC career in 2007 and has been a valuable member of the custody team and serves on the WCC Honor Guard. As a member of the Indiana National Guard, she is a veteran of the campaigns in Afghanistan and serves as the Public Affairs representative for the La Porte Armory. During Lt. Washington's promotional process, it was discovered that in her capacity as a guardsman, her commanding officer is IDOC's own Brigadier General Michael Osburn.

Central Office held a Staff Assembly where IDOC Policy Director Andy Dunigan gave a presentation on the upcoming American Correctional Association (ACA) reaccreditation audit. Chief Communications Officer Doug Garrison shared a video from the recent ACA Winter Conference where Jonathan Towers, Executive Producer of Towers Productions, accepted the Outstanding Journalism award for *Parole Diaries*. During the assembly, Bryan Pearson was named Leader of the Quarter; Debbie Braun, Team Player of the Quarter; and Sheila Razor, Support Staff of the Quarter. Congratulations to these outstanding employees!